

MORE FIRES IN '22

Topeka Department Answered
812 Calls During Year

Increase of 159 Over Number
Reported Here Last Year.

ILLINOIS COAL IS BLAMED

Chief Hanlon Says Grade of
Fuel Is Damaging.

Property Damage Estimates
Not Completed Today.

Shingle roofs and Illinois coal are believed by Joseph Hanlon, Topeka fire chief, to be reasons for the year 1922 being the largest in the history of the city. The number of fires in the city during 1922 was 812, compared with 653 in 1921. The damage done by the fires was estimated at \$1,000,000. The chief said that the Illinois coal was the cause of the damage to the shingle roofs. The coal was of a low grade and was not suitable for use in shingle roofs. The chief said that the damage to the shingle roofs was estimated at \$1,000,000. The damage to the property was estimated at \$1,000,000. The damage to the property was estimated at \$1,000,000.

Estimated damage to property has not yet been figured by Chief Hanlon, but he believes it will be large. More serious fires during the year were the Topeka Wholesale Exchange, where damage of approximately \$200,000 was done; Johnson's department store, where damage of \$4,700; Kaw Packing Co., about \$25,000; Assumption church, resulted in damage great enough that the building was condemned, and in reality was a total loss. The value of the building and contents was estimated at \$30,000. Roof fires have been numerous during the last year.

BIG MEN COMING TO TOPEKA

Top Notch Talent Here for Agricultural Meeting Next Month.

The greatest line of top notch talent ever billed for an annual meeting of the state board of agriculture is slated to visit Topeka during the fifty-second annual session, January 1 to 3, 1923. At least a half dozen national characters are on the program for the conference of farm interests and the promotion of state agricultural society members.

President W. B. Storey, of the Santa Fe, will be the feature attraction at the farm conference, January 1 to 3, 1923. At the opening session of the state society, Governor-elect Davis and Senator-elect Blair, superintendent of public instruction in Illinois, will be featured speakers. The January 1 session will be featured by a discussion of transportation problems. Clyde M. Reed, chairman of the Kansas public utilities commission, will tell of the worries of the crop producers, while Charles Dillon, secretary of the Railway Executive Association, will tell of the troubles of the carriers.

IOWA SHERIFF IS ARRESTED

Charge Winfred E. Robb and Deputy
With Liquor Theft.

Des Moines, Dec. 30.—Warrants were issued today for the arrest of Winfred E. Robb, Polk county sheriff, and his brother, Deputy Sheriff George George Robb, in connection with the alleged theft of \$30,000 worth of confiscated liquor from the Polk county jail last Wednesday night. Both men are in custody.

VETERINARY SOCIETY COMING

Annual State Convention To Be Held
in Topeka January 16 and 17.

The annual state convention of the Kansas State Veterinary Medical Society will be held in Topeka, January 16 and 17. The sessions of the convention, of which the program has not yet been worked out in detail, will be held at the Chamber of Commerce hotel. It is expected that the president of the veterinary society of the state will attend the convention. A local committee headed by Dr. C. W. Fowler is in charge of the arrangements for the convention and for the program. The committee will hold its final meeting within the next few days. The convention will end with a social and entertainment at the Chamber of Commerce on the evening of January 16.

BAR TAKES ACTION

(Continued from Page One.)
had been cast upon the court in Russell's statements and report.

Applause for Judge McClure. In a final statement before the passage of the motion, Robert Stone declared that the statements were not the statements of a disgruntled lawyer who has lost a case, but of a party interested, and that party representing the people of the state of Kansas, and that reason merited the attention and proof of refutation by the bar association.

Judge McClure was holding court at the time set for the meeting of the association. On the request of T. F. Doran, president of the association, he adjourned court to permit the meeting to be held and sat down in the courtroom. When Doran stated the object of the meeting, Judge McClure withdrew from the room, followed by applause.

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

HERBERT LEE PEAVLER, age 2 years and 4 months, the son of Sherman and Pearl Peavler, of Silver Lake, died of pneumonia December 28, at the home of his parents, following an illness of one week. He is survived by his father and mother, and two brothers, Clifford and Albert.

MRS. DELLA LOUISE JOHNSON, age 20 years, wife of E. O. Johnson, 1120 Kansas avenue, died this morning at a local hospital. The body will lie in state at the funeral home from 9 o'clock until 10 o'clock tonight. The body will be taken to Otago City Sunday for burial.

Funeral services for Mrs. William H. Johnston, 72, who died Thursday at her home in Colorado Springs, will be held at the graves in Topeka cemetery Monday morning. The funeral party will meet at Shellenbarger's funeral home, at 10 o'clock and go directly to the grave.

MRS. C. W. CARRIER, age 45, died today at her home, 534 Van Buren street. The funeral will be held Monday at 2 p. m. from the home. Interment in Foster cemetery.

MISS FLOESSIE BLANCHARD, 22, of Wamego, died this morning at a local hospital. The body will lie in state at the funeral home from 9 o'clock until 10 o'clock tonight. The body will be taken to Wamego Sunday for burial.

MRS. JIMMIE BOYD, 63, 9012 Topeka boulevard, died Friday afternoon at her home. The funeral will be held Monday at 2 p. m. from the home. Interment in Mount Auburn cemetery.

Lord's Flowers satisfy. Tel. 6531.—Adv.

WILL DEFEND OIL!

Turks 'Send Reinforcements
Into the Mosul Field.

American Delegation Has Plan
for Armenian Home.

(By the Associated Press.)
Athens, Dec. 30.—The Turks are sending reinforcements in the direction of Mosul, the rich oil district, the ownership of which is in dispute at the Lausanne conference, according to advices to the Central News from a reliable source.

A division of 6,000 Turkish troops, it is stated, has already left Van for Mosul.

Home for Armenians.
Lausanne, Dec. 30.—Plans for an Armenian national home, financed by a possible \$20,000,000 appropriation by the United States congress, are a popular loan in America, in addition to funds from other countries, were presented to the Near East conference today by the American delegation.

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SURPRISE TO CITY

Packing House Industry a Topeka Revenue Producer.

Nearly 360,000 Head of Cattle,
Calves, Hogs Killed Here.

BIG POULTRY-EGG BUSINESS

Dress 7,110,000 Pounds Poultry,
Handle 308,000 Cases Eggs.

Nearly 1,000 Employees in Various
Plants in Topeka.

Figures on the production of packing houses in Topeka, which are astonishing to the uninformed citizen, are shown in the current issue of the Chamber of Commerce bulletin. The datum collected by the Chamber of Commerce is not complete, but covers most of the largest packing plants of the city. The report shows that a total number of 353,000 head of beef cattle, calves and hogs are slaughtered in Topeka annually.

More hogs are slaughtered than either of the other classes of stock, the hogs killed in Topeka during the year number 332,000; the cattle, 18,200; and the calves, 7,800.

The meat which is produced by the slaughtering of these animals, is exported from Topeka, and reaches not only other cities and other states, but goes to foreign countries as well.

In addition to the cattle and hogs slaughtered in Topeka, a considerable number of sheep are converted into mutton annually in Topeka, the figures on the two latter items are not easily accessible.

Big Poultry Dressing.
In addition, there is dressed in Topeka, 7,110,000 pounds of poultry during a year, and 308,000 cases of eggs are handled here during the same period. The combined valuation of the two latter items is more than \$3,000,000.

The poultry which is dressed in Topeka annually is valued at \$2,145,200, and the value of the eggs exceeds that, being \$2,938,000. In addition to these products, 555,000 pounds of butter are processed here during the year.

The packing industry employs, on an average thru the year, number 977, which makes them constitute practically 10 per cent of the broad winners of the city.

Two Men Are Killed But Woman
Companion Escapes.

Woodbury, N. J., Dec. 30.—Alexander Wray, center of the University of Pennsylvania football team of 1918, and Lewis Bruner, brother of "Bots" Bruner, a famous college football star, were killed last night at North Woodbury when a motor car in which they were riding was struck by an electric train of the West Jersey & Sea Shore railroad.

Miss Catherine Johnson, 18, of Philadelphia, and Miss Elizabeth Price, 16, of Washington, D. C., narrowly escaped death thru the heroism of the two men when the car struck their own lives to open the rear doors of the car to enable the girls to jump out.

Miss Johnson was partially out of the motor when the train struck it, and was clear of the wreckage. Wray and Bruner were still living. Picked up by passing automobiles, but died fifteen minutes later in the Underwood hospital here. Both had fractured skulls.

The entire party were in evening dress when the tragedy occurred, being on their way to the Woodbury Country club to a dinner.

NO PLACE FOR KLAN IN EUROPE

"Organization of Crazy Puritans,"
Says One Paris Paper.

Paris, Dec. 30.—The American Ku Klux Klan will have a difficult time gaining a foothold in France, according to Parisian newspapers today. Advice from New York had quoted "The Echo de Paris," a French newspaper, which a reporter of a New Orleans newspaper was permitted to attend. This was stated the investigation probably would be started within the next 48 hours.

"I recently returned from Moreau, a patient in London, who was outraged with many folks who know their community well. I know that the Klan is not to blame," said the Klan official.

The Klan official stated it should develop that any individual members of the Klan are not to blame, but anything to do with the kidnapping and murder of Daniels and Richards they would be outlawed and the Klan would assist in obtaining their conviction before the criminal courts of the state.

Gov. John M. Parker, who ordered the public hearing, has openly denounced the K. K. K.

Extends Aid McKinnon.

Easton, La., Dec. 30.—Friends of Dr. B. M. McKinnon, former mayor of Dr. Rouge, have guaranteed to insure his bail in any sum that might be demanded according to Travis County, Texas, where the McKinnon Central Savings bank, and Trust company Whether this financial backing is furnished by the Ku Klux Klan could not be ascertained.

Reliable parties have offered their support and there will be no limit to the funds we shall offer," said Oliver, thru whose bank the offer of bail for Doctor McKinnon was telegraphed to Baltimore, where the former mayor is under arrest on a murder charge.

\$1,500,000 IN WAGE HIKE

Western Electric Will Reward Faithful Employees.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—A wage increase approximating \$1,500,000 annually in the salaries of office workers at one local plant was announced today by the Western Electric company. The increases taking effect January 1.

According to the announcement, "the increase in the result of the continuation of the company's policy of reviewing periodically the rate of pay of each employee in relation to changes as are merited by the employee's progress and advancement."

ELENTY OF SOFT COAL

Rotating Fuel Distributor Makes Favorable Report to Harding.

AROUND THE HOUSE

Charles Pressman, a clerk in the Hub Bargain store, 510 Kansas avenue, was fined \$25 in police court Friday afternoon on a charge of assaulting M. E. Giddison, a farmer living near Emmett. Giddison testified that he bought some shoes and clothing at the Hub and that the shoes didn't fit. When he returned them the clerk refused to refund the money for the shoes. Giddison testified that he then struck him with his fist and slapped him in the face, Giddison asserted. A short time later, in the office of John A. Giddison, assistant city attorney, Pressman threatened to "trim" the farmer, according to the testimony.

Claude Pomroy, arrested Friday by Charles Holman and Vic Platts, plain clothes men, on a charge of stealing a Ford car from George Link, was turned over to the county this morning on a state warrant. He pleaded not guilty and was released on \$1,000 bond pending his preliminary hearing, January 9.

The Meriden Telephone company, of Meriden, Kan., today filed a petition in the district court asking the order to reduce rates, made by the public utilities commission on December 1, 1922, and declared void. The company alleges that even its present rates are not adequate and that the order to lower them is confiscatory.

Mrs. Irene B. Wadley today filed a petition in the district court asking divorce from H. B. Wadley, charging him with desertion, failure to support her and making false accusations against her. They were married October 7, 1922. She asks that her maiden name, Irene Fitzpatrick, be restored.

Mrs. Amanda Thompson, 1610 Clay street, was granted a divorce from Fred Thompson in the district court Friday afternoon. She charged him with cruelty and neglect.

Andy Shockley was granted a divorce in the district court late Friday from Amy K. Shockley, on the grounds of neglect, duty and abandonment. They were married in December, 1919.

Wesley Ayers, taxi driver; Kenneth Gurnore, student, and Harvey Russell, student, were each fined \$25 by Judge S. L. Lashbrook in police court Friday afternoon on charges of speeding, but were paroled upon payment of \$10 each.

Henry Fox, messenger boy at the Postal Telegraph company, reported to the police Friday night that his bicycle was stolen from in front of the Postal office. Two other bicycles were also stolen—one from 418 West Laurent street and the other from in front of the North Side restaurant, the officers were informed.

DEATH OF JOHN P. JOHNSON

Former Topekan Operated Confectionery Store on Kansas Avenue.

Word has been received in Topeka of the death of John P. Johnson, a former Topekan, who, for many years, operated a confectionery store on Kansas avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets in Topeka.

Mr. Johnson was born in Sweden in 1855, and came to Topeka about 1885. He was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and was a prominent citizen of Topeka.

Mr. Johnson was married to Mrs. John Johnson, nee Mrs. John Erickson, and Mrs. D. W. McNair, all of Topeka.

P. U. C. TO INSPECT "KATY."

Kansas Sees Too Many Excessive Charges in Reorganization.

Members of the public utilities commission have announced that they will make a thorough inspection of the reorganization of the Katy railroad before approving the project. The commission has fixed January 6 as the date for a hearing into merits of the reorganization plan.

For several months the commission has held back a ratification of the reorganization proposal. It demanded more specific information and has reserved decision since last August. It is the contention of the commission that the reorganization plan is not in the best interests of the public.

The statement follows: Loans, discounts, etc., \$4,822,162.00; increase, \$2,250,000.00; decrease, \$2,571,000.00.

Reserve in federal reserve bank of member banks, \$68,942,000; decrease, \$5,317,000.00.

Reserve in own vaults, state banks and trust companies, \$5,136,000; decrease, \$150,000.

Reserve in depositories, state banks and trust companies, \$2,737,000; decrease, \$218,000.

Net demand deposits, \$4,042,719.00; increase, \$124,000.00; decrease, \$2,955,000.00.

Time deposits, \$412,825,000; decrease, \$521,000.

Circulation, \$30,437,000; decrease, \$1,528,000.

Aggregate reserve, \$64,606,000; increase, \$124,000.00; decrease, \$2,955,000.00.

Harding today in a final estimate of fuel conditions.

TIMES WERE HARD

New Record in Business Failures Set During 1922.

In Topeka Division Alone Were
337 Bankruptcies.

MOST IN HISTORY OF STATE

Normal Number Is 180 to 200
Failures Per Year.

Farmers, Laborers, Professional Men Hard Hit.

Financial conditions in Kansas were worse during the year 1922 than in 1921, judging from the number of bankruptcy petitions filed in the office of the United States district court.

In the first division alone there were 337 bankruptcies, compared with 116 in 1921. This year, being an increase of 113 over last year, and more than double the normal number of 180 to 200 during previous years.

But this year, if the number filed in the other two divisions comes up to the 1921 mark, the number will be even greater. Financial conditions in Kansas, compared with the normal number of 180 to 200 during previous years, are worse during the year 1922 than in 1921, judging from the number of bankruptcy petitions filed in the office of the United States district court.

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